

In the Specification:

Page 1, line 2, after the title, please insert the heading **-Technical Field-**.

Page 1, line 5, please insert the heading **-Background Discussion-**.

Page 1, line 27, please insert the heading **-Summary of the Invention-**.

Page 2, please replace paragraphs 2-7, beginning at line 4, with the following:

The present invention therefore provides an applicator, ~~said applicator~~ comprising a barrel portion and a handle portion attached thereto, ~~said the~~ barrel portion comprising means for holding a surgical clip and ~~said the~~ handle comprising trigger means, ~~said the~~ trigger means being operative to effect closure of a surgical clip held within ~~said the~~ barrel by movement of ~~said the~~ trigger from a first position to a second position at which second position ~~said the~~ applicator is operative to effect closure of ~~said the~~ clip, and in which ~~said the~~ trigger is provided with a visual indicator means indicative of an intermediate trigger position, at which intermediate position ~~said the~~ surgical clip held in ~~said the~~ barrel is closed to a half closed position.

Preferably ~~said the~~ visual indication comprises an indentation on ~~said~~ trigger.

Alternatively ~~said the~~ visual indication comprises a reduced section of ~~said the~~ trigger.

In a further embodiment ~~said the~~ visual indication comprises groove means in ~~said the~~ trigger.

In ~~said~~ a further embodiment ~~said the~~ groove means may comprise means for engaging with a removable stop means, ~~said the~~ removable stop means being co-operative with a portion of ~~said the~~ handle to prevent movement of ~~said the~~ trigger past a predetermined position.

Preferably ~~said the~~ groove means is present on both sides of said trigger.

Page 3, please replace the first three paragraphs with the following:

Preferably ~~said the~~ stop means may comprise a U shaped member which is designed in a first locking position to sit within ~~said the~~ groove means and to protrude from ~~said the~~ groove means to form ~~said the~~ stop means.

Preferably ~~said the~~ U shaped member comprises spring steel or similar material ensuring secure engagement with ~~said the~~ groove means.

Preferably ~~said the~~ U shaped member comprises means for gripping by a surgeon to effect removal of ~~said the~~ U shaped member from ~~said the~~ trigger, enabling movement of ~~said the~~ trigger past ~~said the~~ predetermined position.

Page 3, please replace the 5th paragraph, beginning at line 15, with the following:

In a further embodiment the handle includes a recess, the trigger being pivotally mounted within the handle, the trigger being movable into ~~said the~~ recess when ~~said the~~ trigger is operated, and in which the trigger is dimensioned to have minimal clearance between itself and the recess over substantially the whole pivotal movement of the trigger.

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Page 4, please replace the 4th paragraph, beginning at line 14, with the following:

The present invention also provides an applicator comprising a handle portion and a barrel portion, ~~said the~~ barrel portion having gripping means at a distal end from ~~said the~~ handle portion for gripping an object in which ~~said the~~ handle portion includes trigger means operative to move into and out of a main body portion of ~~said the~~ handle and being operative to move ~~said the~~ gripping means to grip an object and in which ~~said the~~ trigger means is provided with visual indication means indicating a defined intermediate position of ~~said the~~ trigger means, ~~said the~~ unusual indicator comprising a change in surface texture at an defined intermediate position ~~said the~~ surface texture change being dimensioned such that the clearance between the trigger means and ~~said the~~ main body portion is minimal, thereby removing the possibility of snagging surgical gloves on movement of the trigger.

Page 4, line 26, please insert the heading -Description of the Drawings-.

Page 5, line 19, please insert the heading -Detailed Description-.